MONTEREY COUNTY

LABOR NEWS

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Perry Faulkner, Chief of the Veterans' Employment Service, and Robert C. Goodwin, Director of the U. S. Employment Service, U. S. Department of Labor, shake hands on a promise to intensify their agencies' efforts on behalf of America's disabled vets during 1947.

Anti-Labor Group Told To Disavow Co. Unions

(Release from State Fed. of Labor)

San Francisco, Calif.

In line with the decision of the United States Supreme Court, the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association of Los Angeles has been ordered to send notices to all of its members that it will never again set up company-dominated unions, solicit or collect funds for the purpose of interfering with the rights of employees under the Wagner Act, or in any other manner coerce or restrain employees of any employer from their rights under the Wagner Act.

Upholsterers' Local 15, AFL, through its attorney, David Sokol, is protesting to the NLRB that the M&M has not complied with the Supreme Court's decision in that it has not submitted proof as to whom these notices have actually been sent.

BURDEN OF PROOF

Regional Attorney Maurice J. Nicoson, of the National Labor Relations Board, confirmed the fact that the case is not closed until it receives complete proof from the M&M that such notices have actually been mailed.

Should the M&M refuse to comply fully with the decision of the court, it can be cited for contempt for violation of the NLRB. In the event of future violation, the M&M and any of its agents or officers can be cited immediately for contempt of court.

The M&M was found guilty along with its associates, the Southern Californians, Inc., The Neutral Thousands and the Employees' Advisory Service, for various specific anti-labor practices, as construed under the National Labor Relations Act.

Vet Retraining Hit By Lowered Budgets

Washington, D.C.

Budget restrictions will cause the Retraining and Reemployment Administration to cut its staff of 80 down to 25 or 30 by the end of March, RRA Director Graves B. Erskine announced. RRA coordinates Federal, state and community activities in retraining, re-employment, vocational rehabilitation and vocational education for war veterans.

Shall Vets Join Union To Get Job?

(Release from State Fed. of Labor)

San Francisco, Calif.

The question as to whether a veteran is required to join a union in order to get his old job back is finally posed to the Federal District Court of California in the case of Iob et al. v. Los Angeles Brewing Company, Inc.

The plaintiffs place before the court the question of whether a veteran must join a union after reinstatement in order to continue in employment for the statutory period of one year. Three veterans allege that they were denied employment because they refused to join the union. They claim reinstatement rights and loss of wages.

LIST OTHER SUITS

Other suits in which the same issue was raised are pending against other Southern California breweries.

According to Selective Service, a returning veteran need not join a union in order to get his old job back, if he does not desire to do so, even if the employer has signed a closed-shop contract while the veteran was in the armed forces.

This interpretation has been challenged by labor organizations, as well as management, and the outcome of this suit will help to resolve a question that has caused considerable friction.

Put the Heat On Congress!

Organized labor is letting its representatives in Congress know it is watching their action as well as vote on the following legislation:

Taft-Ball-Smith Anti-labor Bill S. 55

Modeled on old Case Bill, this antilabor omnibus bars the check-off, limits union rights of supervisory workers and enforces the 60-day cool-off. Write senators to vote against in any form, along with Ball bills to outlaw union security and national bargaining.

Hawkes Rent-Boost Bill S. 415

Write senators to defeat this bill which raises rents 15 per cent and kills controls on new rental homes. Urge passage of Murray-Wagner Bill (S. 528) renewing federal rent control for one year.

Knutson Tax Bill, HR. 1

Providing 20 per cent cut in income taxes, this bill would give millions to the millionaires, pennies to the workers. Write representatives to pass a tax bill putting the burden on high incomes.

Anti-Polltax HR. 7

Once more the issue of cleaning out anti-labor polltaxers from Congress depends on passing this measure. Write all representatives to pass it quickly so Senate can tackle it before a southern filibuster develops late in the session.

Green Pleads For Retaining Of Rent Lids

Washington, D. C.

An emphatic plea to extend rent control and resist any moves to put through a general rent increase was sent Sen. Charles W. Tobey (R., H. H.) by AFL Pres. William Green.

Green wrote Tobey as chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, urging him to "support extension without change of direct control provisions of the emergency Price Control Act until June 30, 1948."

"UNBEARABLE BURDEN"

"A general increase of rent ceilings at this time would place an unbearable burden on millions of American families," Green wrote, "and would cause untold hardship in widespread evictions of those unable to meet such increases."

The direct result would be a sharp rise in living costs, Green said, and "would have an extremely disturbing effect on wages and present a real threat to industrial peace.

"A general rent increase would also cut deeply into the buying power of consumers and would further curtail the amount of money spent for other commodities. The impact of such an increase in rents would be promptly felt by every corner storekeeper whose sales would fall off."

HOUSING STILL UNSOLVED

Recalling that the AFL has made a searching study of the problem and the effect of present ceilings on the income of owners and operators of rental property, Green said this study showed there are some cases of hardship "but these instances are in a small minority" and he suggested appropriate relief on proper showing by the individual landlord.

Green said the construction of 900,000 dwellings in the coming fiscal year would not solve the housing problem, and until that is done, rent control should not be terminated.

"On behalf of millions of American wage earners I plead with you to act favorably to extend the rent control law until June 30, 1948 and vigilantly oppose any rent increase prior to 1948."

JOB QUITTER RATE SLOWS, SAYS BUREAU

Washington, D.C.

Bureau of Labor Statistics figures for December show that workers are less inclined to quit their jobs than in previous months, and that manufacturing employers are slowing down the rate of hiring new workers.

Although the low December hiring rate (4.1 per cent compared to 5.7 per cent in November) is partly traceable to winter curtailment of outside construction as well as the freight embargo during the soft coal stoppage, the downward trend over the full year is clear. The hiring rate was 6.9 per cent in December of 1946.

The December quit rate was only 2.9 per cent, well below November's 3.7 per cent, whereas layoffs rose from .7 per cent to .9 per cent between November and December. Manufacturing employers hired women at the same rate as men during the month, although women quit their jobs almost half again as frequently as male workers.

The general decline in hiring, according to the Veterans Administration, was marked by an increase in both unemployment insurance claims by non-veterans and in GI readjustment allowance claims. From the end of November to January 11, unemployment insurance claims rose from 830,000 to 1,155,000 and GI readjustment figures went from 870,000 to 1,198,000.

GIs Reported Helping 'Huk' Guerrilla Unit

Manila, P. I.

Sixty American GIs are thought to be fighting in the ranks of the Hukbalahap, Philippine wartime guerrillas whose postwar program of lower rents and protection of peasants oppressed by landlords is bitterly opposed by Pres. Manuel Roxas. Roxas, a wartime collaborator with Japan, aims to wipe out the popular movement. Story of the GIs was revealed in a U. S. Army report, saying the men are being sought in the central Luzon war area.

Americans Cash Bonds to Meet Increased Cost, Survey Reveals

Washington, D. C.

The great majority of Americans who cash in their government savings bonds these days do so to meet emergencies or to pay for necessities.

This fact was revealed by a Treasury Dept. survey covering the first seven months of 1946 discussed in a bulletin of the Institute of Life Insurance.

The survey, taken before the steepest climb in living costs had taken effect last summer and fall, showed that about 80 per cent of the persons redeeming bonds in the period listed personal emergencies and essential living expenses as their reason. The average amount redeemed by this group, however, was relatively small, amounting to about 40 per cent of all bonds redeemed.

In contrast, some 14 per cent of the people redeeming bonds did so for investment purposes but their cash-in amounted to 37 per cent of the total redeemed. They listed investment in homes and businesses as the main reason for taking the cash.

City-dwellers led farmers in unloading their bonds, the survey found, and more than seven million persons cashed in some bonds during the seven months. One-third of this group cashed in all the Series E bonds they owned.

Although the Treasury Dept. ended in the black on investment bonds (Series F and G), redemptions of E bonds totalled $1 billion more than the $4.5 billion sold.

Big Gains Shown In Increasing of Minimum Wages For Female Help

Washington, D. C.

Postwar gains already recorded in 27 states with minimum wage laws for women have shown the advantage to all workers of passing such laws, Director Frieda S. Miller of the Labor Dept. Women's Bureau reported.

Miss Miller said that since the federal wage-hour law applies only to workers in interstate commerce, state minimum wage laws are essential to guarantee a floor to workers in strictly intrastate industries. Also, she said, under state laws there can be established in any industry a rate higher than the 40 cents now required by the federal law.

A Women's Bureau analysis reveals that important recent achievements on the minimum wage front have followed four main trends: (1) application of laws to additional classes of workers; (2) better wage provisions, requiring high basic rates and eliminating pay differentials for minors, learners and workers in smaller communities; (3) overtime pay for hours after a reasonable basic work-week, usually 40 or 44 hours; (4) additional provisions establishing desirable working conditions.

A Wisconsin order is reported as widest in scope, raising minimum rates for all occupations and covering about 185,000 women. Wisconsin is the only state that to date has set minimum wages for household and agricultural workers, with a 45-cents-an-hour top minimum in larger town for all types of employment.

The highest basic hourly minimum is Oregon's 66 cents for women and minors engaged in canning and processing fruits, vegetables and fish, with overtime premiums required after 10 hours a day. Massachusetts has ordered a 60-cent minimum for an estimated 126,000 women and girls in clerical, technical and similar jobs, and amended the law to include men, the Women's Bureau reported.

Kaiser-Frazer Co. Does Own Printing; Bears Union Label

Willow Run, Mich.

The Kaiser-Frazier Co. is the first auto manufacturer to put out its own printing with the union label, under a contract signed with Detroit Typographical Union No. 18 (AFL). Other K-F departments are under contract with the United Auto Workers.

The contract sets the same conditions as in Detroit job shops with shift scales of $85, $90 and $95 a week.

Detroit pressmen and bookbinders (AFL) are putting the finishing touches on their Kaiser-Frazer contract now.

SALINAS UNION IN MOVE FOR NEW LABOR TEMPLE; STOCK TO BE READY SOON

Officials and representatives of almost all unions in the Salinas area were called together last week to lay plans for a new Labor Temple in Salinas, calling the next meeting for March 17, at which time all unions will be requested to make a commitment on the amount of stock they plan to purchase.

With Randolph Fenchel as temporary chairman and Carl Lara as temporary secretary, the Labor Temple Committee took no definite actions other than to decide that sale of stock to members of unions and to union organizations would probably be best way to finance the enterprise.

As to the matter of a site, the offer of Laborers 272 of its vacant lot adjoining the existing Labor Temple at 117 Pajaro St. was explained, but the committee agreed that all unions should be given opportunity to suggest possible sites before a decision is made.

The stock, or bonds, planned by the committee to raise funds will be non-negotiable. Transfer of stock will be only with consent of the committee. Only bona fide union members or unions may purchase stock, it was agreed.

All unions were requested to bring up the matter of financially supporting the move for a new Labor Temple, to replace the old and inadequate structure now existing, and to send delegates to the March 17 meeting to report on the proposed investment by each union.

With this information as a starter, the committee will lay plans for the type of building desired, its probable cost, and location. Legal advice is being secured to determine a procedure for voting power of stockholders.

Culinary Union Officials Attend State Meeting

Officials of culinary unions in Santa Cruz and Monerey Counties were among the 166 representatives of 62 culinary-bartender unions in the state attending the California State Alliance of Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders at San Francisco last week.

The meeting, billed as an executive board session, was addressed by Arthur Samish, prominent lobbyish, who discussed various bills before the State Legislature and the effect of certain measures on culinary-bartender unionists.

George Reilly, member of the State Board of Equalization from this district, spoke briefly on the matter of return to 2 a.m. closing for bars, explaining his stand for a 1 a.m. closing law.

Local officials attending were Mildred Rowe, secretary of Santa Cruz County Culinary-Bartenders 345; Pearl Robinson, secretary of Monterey Culinary-Bartenders 483, and Bertha Boles, secretary of Salinas Culinary Alliance 467.

Month Strike Brings Antwerp Dockers an Increase in Wages

Antwerp, Belgium

After a month long strike, 13,000 Antwerp dockers voted to accept terms agreed upon by the Belgian Transport Workers Union and the Employers. The strike, which was highlighted by 6000 soldiers unloading food supplies, was settled on by the following terms:

Dockers are to receive an increase of 24 francs a day, bringing the basic wage to 180 francs a day against 170 before the strike. All dockers will receive a travelling allowance of 10 francs a day. In addition supplements will be paid for handling heavy, dirty, dangerous or unhealthy goods. The decasualization scheme is to remain in force, but the government has proposed a commission to consider changed.

Caveny Named As Sportsmen Club Official

Lester Caveny, business agent of the Monterey Fish Cannery Workers Union, has been elected vice-president of the Monterey Peninsula Sportsmen's Club. Caveny is actively interested in hunting and the breeding of hunting dogs.

Other officials of the club include Boyd Beall, president, and Hickey Stalters, secretary.

Painters Plan Organization In South County

Painters Union 1104 of Salinas has opened an organization campaign in the southern portion of Monterey County, Business Agent Carl Lara reported last week.

Organization of painters has been started in Gonzalez, Soledad and King City areas, he explained.

Lara also disclosed that he had been forced to deny a spray painting permit for use in painting interiors of new housing units in the public housing project due shortly at the airport in Salinas.

Denial of the permit was necessary under regulations which declare spraying of the insides of closed rooms as a menace to health.

Lara added that he has had reports that some contractors have been tricked into hiring painters posing as journeymen but not actually qualified. Lara explained that a number of un-qualified persons were seeking to enter the painting trade and were getting jobs, but were unable to do the work required.

He urged all contractors employing new men to contact proper union officials to determine if new men are actually qualified.

SALINAS RODEO TO BE IN JUNE

The California Rodeo, internationally known attraction of Salinas in pre-war years, will be held late in June of this year—the committee in charge giving up the traditional mid-July dates for the earlier and better weather period, it was reported last week.

Announcement that the Rodeo Association has received a check for $100,000 for putting the rodeo grounds back in condition was made in Salinas last week. This work will be started shortly and will include renovation of barns, roadwork and similar projects.

During the early months of the war, the rodeo grounds were taken over by the U.S. Government and turned into an internment center for Japanese residents of this area. Later United States troops were housed in the area in limited numbers, but two years ago most of the barracks and government installations were removed.

Fish Canners Now Packing Food for Dogs

Monterey Fish Cannery Workers, disgruntled after the poorest sardine season in the history of Monterey's famed "Cannery Row," are being employed by fish canneries to some extent for packing of other foods, the FCW union reports.

One plant, Sea Beach, is packing dog food. Other plants are experimenting with pork and beans, vegetable canning and other specialties, it was reported.

Some summer pack is being attempted also, with Hovden and San Xavier plants putting up anchovies and a few "summer sardines."

Culinary, Bartender Open Negotiations

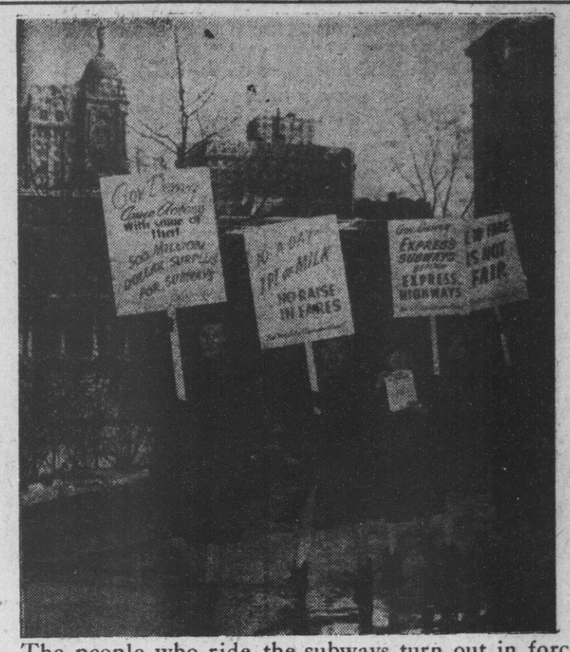
Negotiations for a new contract covering culinary workers and bartenders have been opened by Culinary-Bartenders 483 of Monterey, reports Pearl Robinson, secretary.

Under the new contract the union is seeking a 10 per cent increase in wage rates, she said.

John Deer Attends Several Meetings

John W. Deer, representative of laundry workers and box makers in the Salinas area, was away most of last week attending various conferences and organizational meetings throughout the state in behalf of Boxmakers Union 3034.

Lick Realty Interests



The people who ride the subways turn out in force to defend the five-cent fare at hearings conducted by the New York Board of Estimate. All labor hit proposals of the real estate pressure groups to lift the fare to 10 cents. After two days of testimony Mayor William O'Dwyer announced the board's decision—no increase. (Federated Pictures)

Unions Asked to Protest Flock of Anti-Labor Acts In Hopper at Sacramento

(Release from State Federation of Labor)

San Francisco, Calif.

In a letter sent out to all affiliated organizations, C. J. Haggerty, Secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, called upon the membership of the unions to contact, individually and collectively, their legislative representatives regarding the large number of anti-labor measures which have been introduced at the current session of the state legislature.

These measures, some of which are briefly summarized, will not only destroy the functioning of the trade unions, but are class legislation and will victimize management and other segments of the public as adversely as they will labor.

HIT PUNITIVE PROGRAM

The Federation secretary stressed that this is not the time for punitive legislation and will not help recovery in any sense. Because of their partisan nature, such bills, if enacted into law, would produce chaos in labor-management relations.

The Federation is busily engaged in preparing a complete analysis of all bills of interest to labor and which have been introduced in the legislature. This analysis will be, by far, the most exhaustive yet prepared and will be sent to all the affiliated organizations for their guidance and information.

Below, just a few of some of the more vicious bills are indicated, for the benefit of the readers:

AB 458 (Allen et al): This bill makes expressly applicable a state of extreme emergency to conditions resulting from a labor controversy.

AB 459 (Field et al): This would prevent any postponement before the commencement of a trial in any court mentioned without defendants being personally present in court and consenting thereto.

AB 460 (Butters et al): This bill would make it unlawful for any peace officer to organize or assist in organizing to join or agree to join any labor organization or to financially maintain or contribute to the support of such organization.

AB 463 (Evans et al): Any information under this bill can be placed before any magistrate if a violation of law has been threatened or that an unlawful act is about to be committed, etc., in connection with a riot, strike, lockout or labor dispute. The magistrate must issue a warrant and a person complained of must place a bond of $5000 with one or more sureties.

AB 622 (Burke): Would eliminate real estate salesmen from receiving unemployment benefits.

AB 915 (Butters et al): This bill would exclude thousands of workers from unemployment benefits by including the narrower Federal definition of Agricultural Labor.

AB 1261 (James et al): This bill would prevent anyone from being denied work if he did belong to a union. It would also make it unlawful for any employer to agree to hire non-members of a labor organization.

AB 1266 (Sherwin and Clarke): This bill would levy an 80 per cent tax on an income received as portal-to-portal pay.

AB 1325 (Geddes): This bill would make suitable employment to be determined by other disadvantages to the applicant of any employment benefits than those already specified in the law.

AB 1504 (Boyd): This bill would eliminate the $300 earning in any base period and in its place make necessary for an employee to receive paid wages of not less than 30 times his weekly benefit in order to receive unemployment benefits.

AB 1505 (Boyd): This bill would disqualify for unemployment benefits seasonal workers.

AB 1506 (Boyd): This bill would define suitable employment so that a worker would be subject to demotional work if so directed.

AB 1507 (Boyd et al): This bill makes it unlawful for two or more persons congregating in any public place that would interfere with or obstruct free passage of any person or vehicle in or out of any place of business. Failure of any individual to move as directed by any peace officer shall constitute a violation.

AB 1508 (Boyd et al): This would make it unlawful for any person by the use of force or violence or threat of violence or force to prevent or attempt to prevent any person from working. It would eliminate all picketing.

AB 1509 (Butters et al): This would forbid any two or more persons by agreement or combination, etc., to cause or compel and attempt to cause or compel any employee against his will to become or remain a member of any labor organization or any employer to require any employee to become or remain a member of any labor organization.

AB 1510 (M. Philip Davis, Hinton and Silliman): This bill would prevent a union to fight for its bargaining rights if a dual organization was involved and had succeeded in obtaining a quasi "collective bargaining agreement."

AB 1511 (Davis et al): This bill would make it unlawful for any two or more persons by agreement, combination to cause or compel or attempt to cause to compel any employer to recognize or bargain with a labor organization as the collective bargaining representative of any of his employees.

AB 1152 (Clarke et al); also SB 342 (Hatfield et al): These bills not only make the Hot Cargo and Secondary Boycott Act permanent, but would outlaw the closed shop and could subject any action on the part of labor unions to judicial review and court enjoinment.

AB 1512 (Huyck et al): This bill would eliminate the necessity to pay unpaid wages earned by striking employees payable on the next regular payday but such payment would be extended until such time as it would require the employees and supervisors thereof handling payroll records to make up for time lost from work resulting from a strike.

AB 2020 (Boyd): This bill would make it a felony if two or more persons conspire to cause, compel, encourage or induce any strike which has any object other than or in addition to the furtherance of a trade dispute within the trade or industry in which the strikers are engaged; also, to cause, compel, encourage or induce any strike designed or calculated to coerce the government either directly or indirectly or by inflicting hardships upon the community.

SB 317 (Ward): This bill would make ineligible applicant to receive unemployment benefits for the week subsequent to the occurrence of the cause of the disqualification.

SB 456 (Watson and Weybret): This bill would add drastic qualifications in determining availability for work.

Every man wants a woman to appeal to his higher nature and a lot of others to appeal to the other 99 per cent of him.

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The Labor Editor Speaks

VITAL FACTS ABOUT OIL

A careful study of the world oil situation in a recent issue of *The New Republic* is highly important reading.

The United States, with 140 million people, has known domestic oil reserves of 21.3 billion barrels—153 barrels per person. American private companies also control a large part of the remaining oil sources.

The Soviet Union, with 180 million people, has known domestic oil reserves of 5.7 billion barrels—about 33½ barrels per person.

In Mexico, Colombia, Trinidad, Venezuela, Rumania and the Dutch East Indies combined there are reserves of only 10.3 billion barrels.

The only other really big oil pool in the world is in the Persian Gulf area, which has known reserves of 32 billion barrels. In other words, Persian Gulf reserves are almost equal to the known reserves on the rest of the planet.

Through reparations arrangements, the Soviet Union has some control over Rumanian oil output for a limited period, and also has control over some of the synthetic production in occupied Germany. But this is a drop in the bucket. The tentative Soviet-Iranian agreement for Russian exploitation of Azerbaijanian oil has not yet been ratified by the parliament of Iran.

Meantime private corporations in the United States and Britain own or control (at home or abroad) about nine-tenths of the world's reserves. If oil from these great reserves is made freely available to the rest of the world at reasonable prices, there need be no serious friction. If, however, it is distributed at extortionate profit, or if it is used as a blackjack for political domination, world peace will be in jeopardy.

For several generations yet oil will be the most important commodity in the operation of a modern industrial economy. There are three other major sources of industrial power to take the place of oil: (1) greatly expanded hydro-electric power development for heating, railroads and urban bus lines; (2) synthetic substitutes from coal, etc., and (3) civilian use of atomic energy for power, heat and locomotion. But while all these costly developments are being worked out, the demand for oil and its by-products will increase for a long time to come. The nations which control the bulk of the world's supply literally have other nations by the throat.

There is only one sane way out: *an international oil pact, under the supervision of the United Nations, to guarantee that every country gets its fair share of oil production at a fair price.*

TREADING ON UNCLE'S CORNS

We hear a lot these days about how private enterprise, standing bravely on its own two feet, is responsible for all the jobs and all the comparatively high living standards in the United States. Conversely, we hear about the menace of government interference, bureaucracy, etc.

Yet on January 10 the *United States News* made a report on the amount of government aid to "private enterprise" during the period from 1931 to 1939. Here it is:

"The total net contribution of Government to business in those seven years was around $20 billion."

Who's been standing on whose feet?

WE WERE JUST THINKING

We have it on the authority of the U. S. Department of Labor that, of the one million population of Paraguay, more than 825,000 are women. The situation was brought about, it is explained, because of the long and bitter wars in the past which decimated the male population. The question arises: How long will it take monogamy to strike a normal balance? Also—is it true that morality is the best thing to do under the circumstances?

WHY WE'RE 'GETTING OUT'

United States aid to Chiang Kai-Shek has amounted to over $5 billion. That is about $30 for each person in the United States. Most of this money has been spent in an effort to continue the old policy of landlordism which collects everything possible from the peasants and workers. All over China the 400 million workers and peasants are resisting. Production has gone down to a point so low that traders can't buy. *That's* why we're "getting out" of China.

THE "HOLY" AMERICANOS

Secretary of the American Dental Association says that a U. S. health insurance plan is impossible because there's already a "backlog" of 500 million cavities and aching teeth, and that there are only half enough dentists to fill the 112 million new cavities each year—let alone filling the old ones. Our answer to this is: If the situation is *that* bad, the quicker we get a national health plan, the better!

GIGGLES AND GROANS

THANKS, EVERYBODY!

An English professor was duly elated when his brilliant wife presented him with a son. This happy event coincided with the publication of his wife's latest book.

The professor glowed with redoubled pride as he read the extremely favorable reviews on his way to his classes. As he walked into his freshman lecture he was greeted with a storm of applause. "Congratulations" was scrawled across the blackboard.

"Thank you very much, gentlemen," he said, blushing modestly, with his mind still on the book, "but I assure you my wife deserves all the credit. She did it all herself."

The uproarious laughter which greeted this statement completely nonplussed the professor. He coughed nervously. "I repeat," he went on amid growing tumult, "I had nothing to do with it. Any little help my wife may have had she got from Professor Jones."

* * *

PRESENT LIABILITY

BOY: "And now, doctor, that I've told you I am going to marry Anne, there's one thing I want to get off my chest."

DOCTOR: "You just tell me about it, my boy."

BOY: "A tattooed heart with the name 'Mabel' on it."

* * *

PERFECTLY PROPER

INTERESTED OLD LADY (questioning a model): "Do you mean to say that you pose for a man with no clothes on?"

MODEL: "Heavens, no! He wears pants and everything."

* * *

TRAFFIC PROBLEM

The kid, aged five, was muttering to himself as he dressed in the morning. "Hmmmm," he said, "button gone off—and right in the busiest place, too."

* * *

CUTTING IT SHORT

This story won first prize in a competition run by an American periodical for stories of brevity and dramatic content:

Elvina Parker received a telegram from her brother, who was accompanying her husband on a big-game expedition in Africa. The telegram read: "Bob killed lion hunting.—Fred."

Elvina, overcome with grief, wired back: "Send him home.—Elvina."

Three weeks later a large packing-case arrived from Africa. Inside was a lion. Elvina sent a telegram: "Lion received. Must be mistake. Send Bob.—Elvina."

Back from Africa came the reply. "No mistake; Bob in lion.—Fred."

* * *

A NEW WRINKLE

BOBBIE: "I hear your sister's boy friend chased you out of the living room last night."

SOX: "Yes, but I got even with him. I put quinine in Sis's face powder and every time he kissed her he made such a face that now she won't speak to him."

* * *

SLIGHT ALTERATION

LANDLORD—"What is your complaint?"

TENANT—"The bathroom faucet won't run; would you mind having the hole in the roof shifted over the tub?"

* * *

PROBABLY UNFAIR, TOO

"Is this the Band-Box Cleaners?" inquired a frantic voice on the other end of the line.

The proprietor of the dry cleaning establishment affirmed that it was. Whereupon the feminine voice said: "Please do let me speak to my husband. He told me he was going to play cards, and hasn't been home all night."

"But why call here?" asked the dry cleaner.

"I had to. My husband said his friends would probably take him to the cleaner's, but he didn't say which one, so I'm calling them all."

818 Ships Sold

Sold or on application are a total of 1162 ships for foreign interests, the Maritime Commission announced last week, continuing the wholesale transfer of ships to foreign registry or ownership, a move to dodge American taxes and fair wages. This total compares with only 416 sold or on application for American investors.

These totals are for the end of 1946, up to which time this number of vessels had been sold or asked for by foreign and American interests under the Merchant Ship Sales Act. There remained just under 3,000 ships yet to be disposed of.

The various types of ships sold thus far, totalling 818 actual sales, include 364 Liberties, 225 C-types, 101 tankers, 49 Victories and 79 coastal vessels.

American operators got 179 C-types, 53 Liberties, 48 tankers. Foreign interests got 46 C-types, 311 Liberties, 53 tankers, 46 Victories and 66 coastal ships.

The Wastrel

A husband was chiding his wife over her extravagance. Finally she could stand it no longer and burst out "You should talk about extravagance. Why last year you bought a first aid kit and to this day you have not even once cut your finger."

THE MARCH OF LABOR





AN ESSAY ON MORALS, by Philip Wylie. Published by Rinehart & Company, Inc., 232 Madison Avenue, New York 16. Price $2.50.

Some years ago the reading public was shaken out of its doldrums by Philip Wylie's "Generation of Vipers." In "An Essay on Morals" Wylie attempts to outline his general philosophy of life, but if you think he has decided to be a good boy and bend the knee to all our venerable traditions and institutions, you are due for an even ruder jolt.

Wylie tells us that the crying need of our world is recognition of the fact that we are animals and not pale images of the Deity, and the sooner we divest ourselves of bunk and hokum the sooner we will get rid of repressions and complexes and self-deceptions that are heading us into a moral crack-up. He is savage in his criticism of the church and organized religion and, in this respect, "An Essay on Morals" will stir up a storm of protest from the pulpits and seminaries of the land. He says that the thing about Soviet Communism he doesn't like is that it operates like a church, with Karl Marx and the Deity, with Lenin and Stalin as the co-saviours, and with the Politbureau as the "twelve disciples." You can imagine the reaction to this comparison from the American clergy!

"The sex life of the United States of America—life of the family, the home, and life in all pertinent institutions—is very close to ruin," he writes. To buttress this sweeping charge, he refers to the rapidly rising divorce rate, widespread adultery, a 100 to 200 per cent increase in juvenile delinquency in the last five years, rampant inchastity among minors, rapid increase of homosexuality, swift postwar return of prostitution, mass infidelity among the wives of soldiers, cohabitation by the majority of American occupation troops with the women of the enemy. You see, the man is moral, after all—he objects to Christianity being un-Christian!

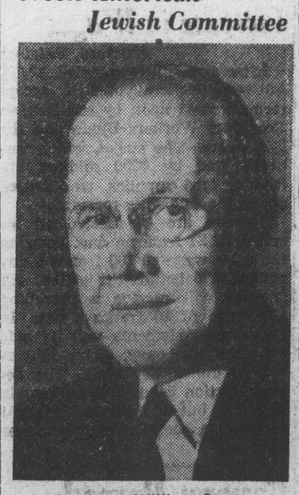
No doubt many will say that this book is purely destructive, in that it offers no Plan. But sometimes it is necessary to clear cobwebs from the mind before it is receptive to anything else. There is a lot that is true and significant in "An Essay on Morals." Conventional folk may be shocked and outraged by this modern Jeremiad. But social complacency needs a rough overhauling like this once in a while, and even if you feel yourself getting hot under the collar as you turn these often bitter pages you cannot help but reexamine your own thinking and re-evaluate your own outlook on life.

This man, whatever else you say about him, can write, and I predict that "An Essay on Morals" will be one of the most talked-about books of 1947.

—AL SESSIONS.

* * *

Greets American Jewish Committee



President William Green

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor has sent a message of congratulations to the American Jewish Committee on the occasion of its 40th Anniversary, stating: "the American Jewish Committee has served the nation and its communities by combatting bigotry and racial prejudice, by upholding the civil rights and democratic liberties of all people, and by striving for the establishment of lasting world peace based upon justice to all peoples and all nations."

Pocketbook News

To celebrate Erle Stanley Gardner Month, Pocketbooks is reissuing eight "Perry Mason" titles—(The Case of the) Lucky Legs, Curious Bride, Velvet Claws, Howling Dog, Sulky Girl, Counterfeit Eye, Shoplifter's Shoe and Dangerous Dowager. If you're a Perry Mason fan (and millions are), here's your chance to stock up at two bits a volume.

Current Pocketbook releases include "The Pocket Treasury," excellent miscellany edited by Louis Untermeyer; "My Ten Years in a Quandary and How They Grew," the best of Robert Benchley humor; "Slim," novel by William Wister Haines; "The G-String Murders," mystery by Gypsy Rose Lee; "The Delicate Ape," spy hair-raiser by Dorothy B. Hughes; "Towards Zero," Agatha Christie mystery without Poirot, but top-notch nevertheless.—A. E. S.

Hendy Works Sold

The giant Joshua Hendy Iron Works at Sunnyvale, largest machine works west of the Mississippi, has been sold by its owners, a score of the state's biggest construction contractors, to Westinghouse Electric Corp., which plans to boost employment from 1,100 to 9,000. The firm took a 10-year lease with option to buy. It will move into the manufacture of electric motors on a big scale, also transformers, heavy switchgear, panel boards, electric water heaters, and home heating units. It will continue the plant's present output of heavy equipment valves, custom-built machinery, and small steam turbines, but not diesel engines.

With its giant boring mills, metal planers and machine tools, the plant can supply huge compressors for some of the West's largest pipe, power and irrigation projects. Westinghouse will move its air-handling division to Sunnyvale for heating, air conditioning, and factory blower type operations. It may also build refrigerators, electric stoves, dishwashers, and other household equipment. The firm's factory and repair division at Emeryville will continue, as will plants at L. A., Portland, Seattle and Salt Lake. The big plant, 40 miles south of SF, includes seven major factory buildings and machine shops, a large foundry, office bldg., cafeteria, etc. Employees will be blanketed into the firm's hospitalization and retirement programs, it was announced.

Hendy will concentrate on its other plants at Torrance near L.A., and at Ampere, N. J.

If you think money doesn't talk, just try to telephone at a pay station without a nickel.

Big Employer Calls Closed Shop Essence Of Democracy

New York City. "The closed shop is the essence of democracy—rule of the majority."

No, that's not a quote from a labor spokesman, but from a member of the Illinois Manufacturers Assn., Herbert J. Buchsbaum, president of a Chicago plastics firm.

The case for the closed shop is presented by Buchsbaum in a debate with Sen. Joseph H. Ball (R., Minn.) which appears in the February issue of Modern Industry. Ball, who has introduced an open shop bill in the Senate, argues: "Compulsory union membership is a monopoly and a violation of individual freedom."

ISSUES WARNING

"The Senator's arguments are directed against unions themselves, rather than against the closed shop," Buchsbaum notes. Warning that outlawing of the closed shop would only result in "misfortune and injustice," the employer sums up his reasons for advocating closed shop contracts as follows:

"The effect on workers of a closed shop agreement is an immediate improvement in morale. They at once recognize that management has wholeheartedly accepted them as a partner and no longer plots the destruction of their union. . . . The workers realize that their fight against management for union security is over, that their future well-being rests entirely on their ability to make the new partnership operate very smoothly and steadily.

SECURITY BOTH WAYS

"The effect on management of a closed shop is even more pronounced. Where labor has security, management has it also. Freedom from petty bickering, suspicion, harassment and friction is sweet music to management. . . .

"The effect on business of a closed shop can best be judged by the showing of businesses in which the closed shop prevails. Labor harmony should produce a wealth of suggestions for improvements in methods. The labor-management committee struggles with production problems rather than with each other. The high morale fostered by mutual trust will show a corresponding profit for the company."



"It's terrific, Luther, simply terrific!" said Mr. Dilworth. "It's just as I said it would be."

"Elephants are terrific, and so's your ignorance, but that's no sign I should get excited about either one," said Little Luther. "What's so terrific now?"

"Why, the way costs are tumbling down, my boy. Milk's down a whole cent a quart. Who said we needed OPA?"

"Yeah, mother told me," Little Luther admitted. "It only went up 4c and it's down a whole penny."

"Don't look a gift cow in the mouth," Mr. Dilworth reminded him.

"That's all you know about where milk comes from," said Little Luther.

"Be that as it may," Mr. Dilworth went on, "there's more good news. The price of Shetland ponies is down $25 or $50."

"Bottom fell right out of them, eh?" Little Luther asked.

"I don't know how you mean that," said Mr. Dilworth with dignity, "But I don't think you should be so flip about it. To have a pony is every right-thinking American boy's dream. Now think of it, the price is down $25 or $50!"

"That's what you said before," said Little Luther. "I suppose now I can have a cheap dream instead of an expensive one. Did you ever wonder what good a big price drop in ponies does me when I can't buy one, even at the new price? That's like asking a steelworker to dance in the streets because mink coats are half off."

"Ah, Luther!" Mr. Dilworth exclaimed, jeering. "A mink coat, half off. Shhhh! Your mother's in the next room. Let's talk about ponies instead."

"As far as I can see," said Little Luther, "ponies are pie in the sky. Can I buy one on the miserable allowance you give me? Can I eat a pony I can't buy? Can I even ride on one? When bubblegum and icecream cones come down, then maybe I'll get excited."

"You're very hard to get along with," said Mr. Dilworth, shaking his head.

"I bet you say that to all the workers," said Little Luther. "How's about a raise in my allowance?"

Wins Critics' Praise



This scene from "The Yearling" shows Gregory Peck, 14-year-old Claude Jarman, Jr. and the fawn, around which the film revolves. Hailed by critics as equal to "The Grapes of Wrath," "The Yearling" proves that Hollywood can put out a serious, significant movie when it turns its talents in the proper direction. (Federated Pictures)

CALLING 'EM STRAIGHT



By ED HUGHES

There's nothing like a juicy sports scandal to whip the nation into a good old-fashioned moral spasm. The legal unveilings of attempted fixings of a football game and a fight in New York have churned a tidal wave of pious indignation throughout the land.

One high pitched scream in the tumult roused by the scandals is heard at every American fireside and frigid radiator. It harps on the wallop of disillusionment suffered by the youngsters of the nation. Ah, these titans of sport, mixed up with bribery and betrayal, were the kids' heroes. Hapes and Filchock, the footballers, and Graziano the pug. Truly, 'tis sad, brother.

WE'RE 'SPORTS CRAZY'

Well, what causes these periodic droopings of the kiddies' spirits? The real cause is that this country has long been sports crazy. Against a rational civilized growth of the nation has been hurled the hard-hitting halfback, the homerun slugger, the dealer in knuckled knockout wallops.

The kids have been taught since romper days a bogus ideal of athletic glory. They get it with their breakfast cereal, through almost continuous radio and sports page bilge about the muscular feats of their heroes. Naturally these sawdust-stuffed celebrities of ballfield, grid and ring eventually emerge with a halo. It couldn't be otherwise.

It is a fairy tale of unique impressiveness to youngsters. These noble giants of the juvenile imagination live today in the flesh, in the newspapers, ride the airways. The kids can even meet them and shake their hand.

FEET OF CLAY

There is no question about this misplaced hero worship. "Shoeless Joe" Jackson was once the kiddies and teen-agers' idol. He was a tremendous batting man. Unfortunately, to his country's shame, he was illiterate, could neither read nor write. Poor Jackson was one of the Black Sox who sold out the fans and the kids in the 1919 world series fake.

After the scandal broke, a crowd of agitated kids followed Jackson, crying, "Say it ain't so, Joe, say it ain't so!" Later, proved so, the kids actually returned baseballs to Joe that he had autographed for them. Sports in reasonable doses are good for kids, grownups too. Use the following prescription and I think it will spare the kids the ever recurring letdowns and betrayals their fallen heroes cause them.

There should be a new deal in nursery and more advanced literature. Give the kids an early earful of truth concerning sports and sports heroes. It will give them a balanced intelligent slant on life.

TRUTH WON'T HURT

Tell them that college football is highly commercialized, that most of its stars are hirelings, that it is largely an incubator for pro football. Point out the sham of palming it off as amateur sport. They'll still be able to enjoy it.

Explain that professional baseball is a boys' sport turned business. Ballplayers are nice enough fellows, honest as a rule, but not intellectual giants. They live in a small world, about nine inches around. It is made of stuffed horsehide with two seams stitching it together. It's safe and wise to tell them all that.

Prizefighting is a larcenous brutalizing business. Crookedness runs rampant. There are some honest fights. But tell the kids to hurry and grow up. Joe Louis can't last forever.

Mystery Unveiled

Speaking of "relativity," there's the yarn about the unfair redwood mill operator who hired a hillbilly from the South as a strikebreaker. The chap wasn't a bad worker, but he kept pestering the boss for advances on his weekly pay (which wasn't as high as union men were getting in the fair plants). Seeking to instill habits of "thrift," the redwood operator urged his new employee to make an effort to save a little out of each dollar.

"But, Boss," protested the hillbilly, "it costs so much for groceries up here—I can't lay up nothin'."

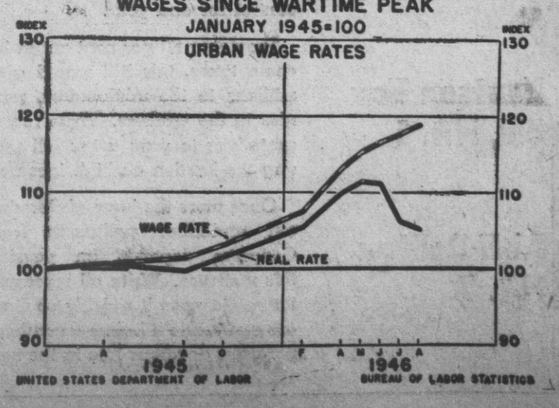
"Don't tell me," replied his employer, "that you and your wife eat up everything you earn!"

"It ain't us so much," explained the scab. "It's that relative what's such a powerful eater. Man alive, what an appetite he's got!"

"Relative?" questioned the boss. "Who's he?"

"He's my brother-in-law, or half-brother, or somethin'," mumbled the strikebreaker. "I don't exactly know just what relation you'd say he is. Anyhow he's my wife's first husband."

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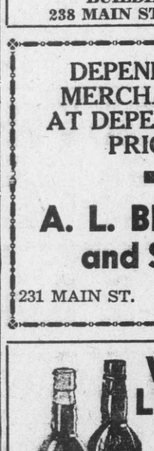


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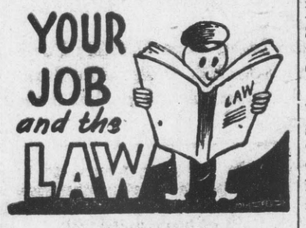
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But Why Swim?



Decked out in as little as possible, Adele Jurgens gets ready to dive in. No wonder swimming's such a popular pastime. (Federated Pictures)



By JACK ABBOTT

A contract between an employer and a union provided that employes maintain membership in the union once having joined it. In violation of the union's constitution and by-laws, one of the employes crossed a picket line of an affiliated union engaged in a strike against the same employer.

The union after a hearing fined the employe, who refused to pay. The union demanded the company discharge the employe. This the company refused to do. The matter was taken to arbitration. The arbitrator upheld the union and decided that unless the employe reinstated himself within 10 days by paying the fine, the discharge was to become effective (American Telephone & Telegraph Co., Jan. 8, 1947).

* * *

Dual Voting Rights

Sometimes an employe performs supervisory work and also does production work. In a recent NLRB case, there was an election in a supervisory unit. An employe who performed both functions voted in the election. His vote was challenged.

The NLRB held that since the employe qualified in both groups, the employe could also vote in both. The challenge was therefore dismissed (Crucible Steel Corp.)

* * *

Machinists' Bonus

A contract between the Intl. Assn. of Machinists (unaffiliated) and the Cutler-Hammer Co. of New York, provided that the company agreed to meet with the union "to discuss the payment of a bonus."

The contract also provided for arbitration of disputes over "meaning, performance, non-performance or application" of contract terms.

The parties thereafter discussed whether a bonus should be paid, but could not agree. The union sought arbitration. The company claimed the dispute was not arbitrable. The lower court decided arbitration should be had.

On appeal to the appelate division of the New York supreme court, however, the court ruled that the dispute was not arbitrable. The court said that since the contract provided only that the company would discuss the bonus payment, it could not agree with the union's contention that all there was to discuss was the amount to be paid. Moreover, continued the court, since the word "discuss" was unambiguous, the union's mere claim that the word meant something else did not make the question arbitrable, though the contract provided for arbitration of disputes over meaning.

It seems to us that the court is highly unrealistic. While the meaning of the contract language may be subject to different interpretations, the fact remains there was a bona fide dispute as to the meaning and the dispute had to be submitted to arbitration. As the dissenting judge stated, the parties expressly agreed to arbitrate any dispute as to meaning and there is no ambiguity about that.

And Georgia is the state that's afraid to let Negroes vote—for fear they'll make a mess of the state government.

With Local 890
FRUIT & PRODUCE DRIVERS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND EMPLOYEES UNION

Main and John Streets
Salinas, California

As reported in this column last week, your Union wound up the hearings before an arbitration board in the case of the S. P. Milling Co. As soon as the decision is handed down affecting wages, holidays and vacations, it will be printed in this paper and in the Salinas Californian so that employees of the S. P. Milling Co. who are no longer employed there will be prepared to act accordingly.

SALINAS ICE INDUSTRY

On Thursday, February 20, a special meeting of this group was held and the membership rejected the counter-proposal by the employer of 10c per hour on the stand that their original request was somewhat comparable to the agreements recently negotiated in the Watsonville area which included preferential hiring, vacations, holidays with pay as well as 15c per hour across the board.

TO ALL MEMBERS FORMERLY EMPLOYED AT THE SPIEGL FOODS COMPANY: Your Union has been asked many, many questions as to future employment with this firm—perhaps these questions can be best answered by a bit of news which recently appeared in the Salinas Californian by management itself. Your Union has no idea when this plant will open up.

Contract negotiations are taking place at the present time with the Frank Raiter Canning Company, Salinas; Watsonville Canning Companl, Watsonville, and the C. B. Gentry Company of Gilroy.

The pattern is somewhat in line with our other operations in other areas. Twenty-five per cent increase is being requested as well as changes in working conditions.

IMPORTANT WATSONVILLE AREA

Our office hours were changed effective Monday, February 24. Watsonville office will be open only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12 noon to 2 p.m. until further notice. All other calls, please place with Salinas office. The business agent will cover all houses in Watsonville area on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Watsonville phone number is 2596. Salinas number is 4893.

The following meetings are scheduled for the month of March: Salinas, at the Women's Civic Club, the general meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4. In Watsonville, the regular meeting will be held at the I.O.O.F. Hall on Wednesday, March 5 at 8 p.m. All other special meetings will be called.

Please be advised that only members in good standing will be admitted to future meetings of this Union. A paid-up book will have to be presented upon request at the door. Members on withdrawal are not active members and are not entitled to attend a meeting of this Union.

DISABILITY INSURANCE

The following are more questions and answers on the Disability Insurance. Any further information may be procured at the office of the Union.

10—Q. Must a worker be under the care of a physician at the time he files a claim for Disability Insurance?

A. The Claimant must have been examined by or under the care of a physician or practitioner during some portion of the first seven days of his disability.

11—Q. Are there exceptions to the requirement of a physician's certificate?

A. Yes. If a worker adheres to the teachings of a bona fide church, sect, denomination or organization which depends on prayer or spiritual means for healing, the department will accept a certificate from a duly accredited practitioner or such organization. Osteopaths and chiropractors may sign the certificates.

12—Q. Where must the claim for Disability Insurance be filed?

A. First claims must be mailed to the Department of Employment Office in Sacramento using the claim form furnished by the department.

13—Q. Where may the claim forms be obtained?

A. Claim forms may be obtained from local offices of the Department of Employment, doctors, and others to be designated later.

14—Q. May claims be filed by mail?

A. Yes. All claims and other required documents relating thereto are to be filed by mail, except in those cases where the claimant is notified by the Department of Employment that a personal appearance or examination will be required.

15—Q. Does the State specify the doctor or practitioner who is to attend the worker?

A. No. The worker may choose his own doctor or practitioner, except in cases where the department requires an additional examination.

16—Q. Is a waiting period required before Disability Insurance is payable.

A. Yes. The law requires a waiting period of seven consecutive days during each spell of disability before Disability Insurance will be paid. No benefits will be paid for such waiting periods.

17—Q. Are Disability Insurance payments made weekly?

A. Not ordinarily. Disability Insurance payments will be made biweekly, except in special cases where the Commission may approve weekly payments.

18—Q. Is Disability Insurance the same as Unemployment Insurance?

A. No. To obtain Unemployment Insurance, a claimant must be unemployed and able to work. To obtain Disability Insurance, he must be unemployed because of sickness or injury.

19—Q. Is Unemployment Insurance and Disability Insurance payable for the same week?

A. No. Only one benefit may be paid for each full week of unemployment. If the eligible claimant is unemployed and able to work, the benefit is paid from the Unemployment fund. If he is unemployed because of disability, and is eligible, he will be paid from the Disability fund.

20—Q. May a worker draw both Disability Insurance and Unemployment Insurance during the same benefit year?

A. Yes. Both types of benefits can be paid during a single benefit year, but payments under either program will be limited to 100 per cent of the award for that program, and payments under both programs will be limited to 150 per cent of the award for either benefits.

* * *

The following received sick benefit checks this week from Local 890: C. A. Noble, Rt. 1, Box 32, Salinas; Jonas P. Tittle, 440 Hyland Dr., Salinas; Clayton H. Gaub, 119 Katherine Ave., Salinas; William R. Jackson, Rt. 3, Box 131, Salinas; John T. Morgan, 534 Terrace, Salinas; Dorothy P. Jones, 26 Toro Ave., Salinas; Maria Alvarez, 239 California St., Salinas; Jacqueline Wren Brown, Salinas, Calif.

MINUTES
Central Labor Council

FEBRUARY 18, 1947

The meeting was called to order by President McCutcheon.

The roll call showed the presence of ten delegates from six locals. Regular officers present were President McCutcheon, Sec.-Treas. Edwards, and Sgt.-at-Arms Alves.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read.

A communication from the Leather and Novelty Workers Union reported that the Olsen-Nolte Saddle Shop and the Visalia Stock Saddle Company, both of San Francisco, have been placed on the "We Do Not Patronize" list. It was moved, seconded, and passed to concur in this action.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to concur in the resolution of the San Francisco Central Labor Council opposing the repeal of the national land law which seeks to remove the 160-acre limitation on water supplied to private lands in Central Valley.

Other communications were presented and considered.

The Barbers reported that they are 100 per cent organized and that all is O.K. with them.

The Bartenders reported that they are still signing up new members and that all is going well with them.

The Butchers reported that they are having some difficulty with the Avenue Market, in New Monterey for selling meat after regular hours. Otherwise all is O.K. with them. They have a committee working out details for their annual meeting. (At this meeting there will be a feed and —.) They have signed up three new members. Their new officers are on the job and doing very well.

The Cannery Workers reported that their canning season has ended. They are negotiating regarding the use of automatic packing machines. Brothers Joe Perry and Lester Caveney have been elected as delegates to their convention.

The Carpenters reported a very good meeting. They had had some discussion regarding the per capita tax paid by some of the organizations in the Building Trades Council.

The financial report was read and accepted and the meeting adjourned.

WAYNE EDWARDS,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Wrong Number

VOICE OVER THE PHONE: "Is Mike Howe there?"

ANSWER: "What do you think this is, a stockyard?"

Portal Ruling Called Invite To Larcenists

Fresno, Calif.

Federal Judge Frank Picard's denial of portal pay claims as too trivial to warrant damages will be seized upon in some industrial circles "as an open invitation to legal petty larceny on the grand scale," the Fresno Labor Citizen predicted here.

The newspaper, representing AFL-affiliated unions, noted that Picard in effect admitted that "a small amount of daily time has been taken from each worker" and declared that "to hold that any theft is too trivial to deserve punishment is to upset a prime precept of the law."

WHAT IS "FILCHING"?

"If it be trivial to filch six minutes of time daily from one workman, then wouldn't an illegal overcharge of one cent per pound on some commodity—aggregating millions but damaging to the individual by only a few cents, also be too trivial to warrant punishment?" editor Hap Haggard demanded in a signed editorial.

Predicting that industry would seize upon the decision in defense of "half-penny industrial piracies," Haggard anticipated it would be "interpreted in some industrial circles as an open invitation to legal petty larceny on the grand scale—highly profitable but established as too trivial to punish."

AFL unions do not subscribe to the portal-to-portal theory, preferring to settle such matters around the conference table, he declared, but "industry would be in a better position to deserve public sympathy if there was conclusive evidence that the large business men of the nation have made a real effort to observe its laws."

IGNORANCE NO EXCUSE

Hitting Picard's recommendation that liability in such cases be limited to June 10, 1946, when the U. S. Supreme Court first ruled there was a violation, Haggard pointed out that "ignorance of the law is no excuse."

"If there were legislative or judicial blunders in the establishment of the fair labor standards act they can be corrected," he declared, "but not through legal ruling branding as trivial some of the things the law was designed to correct—or failure to punish violations occurring before the culprit was caught at it."

Band Leaders Join to Fight Race Barriers

New York City.

A drive to get band leaders to refuse to play before restricted audiences has been initiated by Norman Granz, noted jazz critic and producer of Jazz at the Philharmonic, Inc.

Granz, whose jazz concert group has a non-discrimination clause in all its contracts, suggested the program in letters to more than 30 outstanding jazz band leaders, all members of the American Federation of Musicians (AFL).

BIG NAME RESPONSE

Pointing out that 36 Broadway playwrights and leading producers, directors and members of Actors Equity (AFL) were discussing a clause whereby they never would be forced to play a segregated theater, Granz said: "The obvious corrollary to this is that those of us in music either should do something similar or at least find some comparable method whereby we can add our voice against discrimination."

Responses already received indicate strong interest in a band industry program for fighting discrimination.

Artie Shaw wired: "Rest assured that in any attempt to eliminate anti-minority feeling in America, you may count on my heartiest support."

Arthur T. Michaud for Tommy Dorsey: "I should like you to know . . . that we are in complete accord with you in your endeavor to eliminate racial discrimination and will certainly cooperate to do whatever we can to alleviate this situation."

The King Cole Trio: "We are 100 per cent for non-discrimination of audiences and have instructed our personal manager to insert it in all of our contracts. It is a wonderful idea and we are happy to see so many of our colleagues feel as we do."

Among the other who responded enthusiastically were Charlie Barnet, Count Basie, Buddy Rich and Coleman Hawkins. Spearheading the band industry anti-discrimination drive, Granz has used a clause in his contracts for several seasons which bars discrimination in the sale of tickets and segregated audiences.

CARPENTER ROUNDUP

Promise that the Soledad Prison Farm permanent construction would be done by union workmen under a private contractor, instead of by prison workers, has been won by the State Council of Carpenters, according to a report to George Harter, business agent of Salinas Carpenters 925, from Joseph Cambiano, president of the state body.

Cambiano was quoted as stating that an investigation showed that all work done thus far has been temporary — mostly prefabricated aluminum buildings erected by convicts.

He added that he had been informed of plans for a project which might run as much as $9,000,000 for permanent buildings and workshops. This, Cambiano said, will be by private contract.

* * *

Foundations are practically completed for the new apartment house in Monterey Park being erected by contractor F. V. Hampshire.

Plans for a large hotel in the tract are being completed and a building priority has been sought, according to reports.

Curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and street grading are well under way, despite weather conditions which have hampered the pouring of concrete.

Scores of homes are being erected in the Glen Haven tract by a number of contractors, providing unusually good winter employment for union carpenters, Bro. Harter reports. Almost all members of Local 925 are working, he said.

French Unions Seek Basic Minimum Wage

Paris, France

The French government has appointed a committee to meet with the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) to discuss the union demand for a national minimum wage of 7000 francs a month. The committee, formed after a meeting between Premier Paul Ramadier and CGT leaders, will also deal with the government's price-cutting drive.

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BLDG. TRADES COUNCIL MINUTES

FEBRUARY 20, 1947

Meeting called to order by President W. J. Dickerson at 8 p.m. Roll call showed 20 delegates from nine Local Unions. The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

CREDENTIALS

Brother Ralph Borrego, was present from Carpenters L.U. No. 2978, whose credentials had been referred to the Organization Board. The Board recommended that delegates from Carpenters Local No. 2978 be seated.

Brothers Roy Ballard and Ralph Borrego were seated and Brother Roy Ballard to membership of Executive Board of Council.

All bills were ordered paid.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Sheet Metal Workers L.U. No. 304 protesting that Carpenters are infringing on their jurisdiction by installing metal on steel building, in Salinas area.

It was moved and seconded that Bro. B. J. McGinley of Salinas be requested to attend the next meeting of the Council. Carried.

A letter from Plumbers L.U. No. 62 filing charges against a local plumbing firm was read.

It was moved and seconded that the charges be referred to the Executive Board (the Board will meet Monday, February 24, 1947, 8 p.m.), and the firm be notified of the hearing. Carried.

Received a legislative report from the State B.&C.T.C. of Calif.

Received a legislative report from Calif. Federation of Labor.

Copies of minutes from Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council, B.&C.T.C. of Santa Clara County, and Pile Butts L.U. No. 34. (File.)

REPORTS OF LOCAL UNIONS

Bro. L. Casati, Hodcarriers & Laborers, No. 690, good meeting.

Bro. R. E. Estis, Painters No. 272. All men are working and several new men have come into this district.

Bro. H. Foster, Sheet Metal Workers No. 304, good meeting. We now have our agreement signed with the contractors.

Bro. H. Tretzel, Plumbers L.U. No. 62, good meeting. Heard charges against local plumbing firm, and elected delegates to the State B.&C.T.C. convention, also to the Pipe Trades convention, to be held in Fresno.

Bro. W. T. Evans, Carpenters L.U. No. 1323, good meeting. Initiated four new members.

Bro. N. L. Barted, Lathers L.U. No. 122, we will meet Friday.

Bro. Borrego, Carpenters L.U. No. 2978, nothing to report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Trustees recommend that a vote by the Local Unions be taken on the per capita tax to the Council. They recommend 65 per cent of one hour's pay per month.

It was moved and seconded, that the report be accepted. Carried.

Bro. R. S. (Dick) Rial reports his findings for the past two weeks. Says there are several L.U. who are not paying per capita on all their members. Some Local Unions have a set amount which they pay each month.

It was moved and seconded that where L.U. have a set per capita and not paying on all members be discontinued. Carried.

The Del Monte Stables are being converted to a motel.

By motion the report was accepted.

GOOD OF THE COUNCIL

Bro. S. M. Thomas reports that Stolte Co. have 6000 feet of 8-inch pipe to lay as soon as the ground drys sufficiently to carry the equipmemnt.

No further business to come before the Council the meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
L. T. LONG, Sec.

DEPRESSION? SOME BOSSES DON'T WORRY

Washington, D. C.

While most of labor and management agree that prices and living costs have run away from wages and that the present inbalance cannot last, former chief economist for OPA Richard V. Gilbert charged a small but powerful group in management with not caring to ward off a possible 1947 business recession.

Gilbert spoke before the Natl. Lawyers Guild labor relations conference and stressed the danger to labor, business and farmers in the uneven wage-price relationship. He urged a 15 per cent wage boost "to take the sting out of the recession that everybody expects."

"It would be statesmanship of high order," he said, "if business would grant wage increases to increase buying power at the same time that it reduces prices to push sales. But I regret to say there is a small but powerful group in management who do not want to prevent a recession. Indeed, they prefer one.

"They want, as they put it, to restore discipiine. They want to see men hat in hand waiting for jobs.

"To this group I should like to say that it is easier to unleash the forces of depression than to bring them back under control, and that a depression which would bring labor to its knees would bring farmers, businessmen and the economy generally to its knees at the same time."

Chickens Come Home

"We'd like to come in, too," said the German flier to St. Peter.

"How many of you are there?"

"Forty," was the answer.

"Sorry, I can admit only four," replied St. Peter.

"Why?"

"That's all Goebbels said were shot down."

Asia in Ferment

By SCOTT NEARING

When will World War III begin in Asia? . . . If tinder and sparks are necessary to set off World War III, they are plentiful from one end of the Asiatic continent to the other.

* * *

Chiang has failed miserably. . . . Until the Japanese surrender, Chiang was listed among world counter-revolutionary assets. Today he is recognized as a liability. . . . As the years passed, Chiang's strength on the home front diminished as the class base of his support narrowed.

* * *

Asia is between the old social order and the new. Until 50 years ago, it was a European slave pen. Asia was heathen; Europe was Christian. . . It is only a few short years since uniformed westerners swaggered through Chinese cities, kicking rickshaw boys and brushing civilians out of their way.

* * *

Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union are following divergent policies in Asia. Britain is retreating. The United States is trying to advance. The Soviet Union is on the defensive—waiting. . . . U.S. policy in Asia is based upon the determination of the ruling obligarchy to control the Pacific, check the extension of Soviet influence and secure a lion's share of the Asiatic market. . . Soviet policy in Asia is defensive. Diplomatically, Soviet spokesmen are backing Asiatic colonials against their imperial overlords. Economically, the Soviet Union is making concessions that will lead to closer Soviet-Asiatic trade relations.

* * *

The Asiatic set-up, to use an old simile, is not a powder-keg which any lighted match will detonate. Rather it is a live atom bomb, with the detonating device already ticking. . . Reactionaries and spokesmen for the vast interests have followed dog-in-the-manger policies again and again—followed them to their own undoing and to the destruction of their dupes and victims. . . If only the people could understand, organize their overwhelming strength and act before it is too late!

Let It Be a Lesson

Her lips quivered as they approached his. His whole frame trembled as he looked into her eyes. Her chin vibrated and his body shuddered as he held her close to him.

The moral of this: Never kiss a girl in a jeep with the engine running.

DEMAND THE UNION LABEL.

Powers Agree On Elections For Union in Berlin Zone

Berlin, Germany.

The four occupying powers have finally reached agreement on election procedure for the Free German Trade Union of Berlin, thus ending the week-long confusion over whether the unions do or do not officially exist.

While the Soviet Union continued to recognize the unions, the U. S. took the position that they were dissolved because elections were not held by the Feb. 4 deadline set by Allied authorities.

The compromise election agreement coincided with the opening here of a three-day inter-zonal labor parley to discuss formation of a nationwide union movement. Until now, unions in the four sectors of Berlin have been joined, but separate organizations have been formed in each of the four occupation zones.

LABOR OBSERVERS

U. S. labor groups have observers at the inter-zonal conference. European Reps. Irving Brown and Henry Rutz, slated to head an AFL office in Germany, are representing the AFL.

The Berlin voting plan calls for election of union leadership by proportional representation from all areas. The central committee, which will act for 480,000 Berlin unionists, will have 45 members, 18 to come from the 18 industrial unions in Berlin and 27 to be delegates-at-large.

PLAN CONSTITUTION

Three weeks after the elections are completed, the unions will have to submit a constitution to the Allied powers. Until the constitution is approved, they will not have any official status in the American zone.

The key disputed issue in the election procedure was settled by the unions themselves before they submitted their plan to the Allies. The right-wing political groups within the Berlin unions wanted all candidates to be identified by political labels but were voted down by the provisional central committee in a 77 to 7 vote. The majority felt that delegates should be accepted or rejected on the basis of their records in factories and industries and not according to political labels.

U.N. Is Host to Crown Prince



Among the great number of recent visitors to United Nations Headquarters at Lake Success, New York, was the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, H.R.H. Saud Ibn Abdul Aziz. Shown here at an official U.N. reception in his honor, he is accompanied by Mr. David Owen (extreme right), Assistant Secretary-General of U.N.

the WASHINGTON SCENE



BUREAU OUTLINES PROGRAM TO GIVE FULL EMPLOYMENT

If the American economy is to keep workers fully employed at good wages a way must be found to increase demand both for consumer goods and production (investment) goods, a Bureau of Labor Statistics study said.

The BLS study, written for the Labor Dept. Monthly Review, is entitled Full Employment Patterns, 1950. It discusses the employment, wage, price, tax and savings picture at that time as a typical post-reconversion year.

Pointing out the need for a high demand for the greatly expanded volume of goods which would be produced by a larger labor force with greater rate of productivity than before World War II, the study pushes no political or legislative program.

WHAT IS NEEDED

But to achieve an economic balance at full employment it concludes that:

1. Civilian employment would have to be 59 million. Some eight million would be in agriculture, smaller groups in self-employment, government service, and about 39.1 million wage and salary workers in private establishments.

2. The increase in worker productivity would be 20 to 30 per cent higher in 1950 than in 1929, based on industry-by-industry statistics which have shown an overall rise in output per man-hour of slightly more than three per cent yearly since 1919.

3. Wages averaging 15 per cent higher than in mid-1946 would still leave 7.5 million families earning less than $1,500 a year, and "large numbers of American families might still receive incomes which could not purchase the goods and services required to maintain a satisfactory or desirable standard of living."

4. Prices could be held at the summer, 1946, level under full employment in 1950 with 15 per cent higher wage rates.

5. Income taxes could be those of 1940-41, with prewar excise taxes and corporation taxes held to the 1940 level.

6. The federal budget under such taxes could be balanced at $27.5 billion, including $5.6 billion for national defense.

7. Lower income groups could greatly increase their rate of savings.

Even under this full employment economy, the BLS concludes, there would have to be a higher rate of consumer and industry spending than there was in 1939. Consumers would have to save less and industry would have to build new plants and buy new equipment to keep the nation at work. Otherwise, it says, there is danger of "the classic pattern of boom and bust."

ALL GROUPS BENEFITTED

The study points to the benefits of full employment to all groups in the economy: "If it is achieved, we can have both a high level of profits after taxes and a high level of wage and salary payments, with no increase in prices above present levels." Similarly, the government would be able to provide a higher standard of social services without raising taxes.

Another result, it says, would be a stimulation of international trade and the progressive industrialization of the undeveloped countries of the world, which cannot be attained without substantially full employment in the U. S.

Truckers Given $10.50 a Week Hike in South

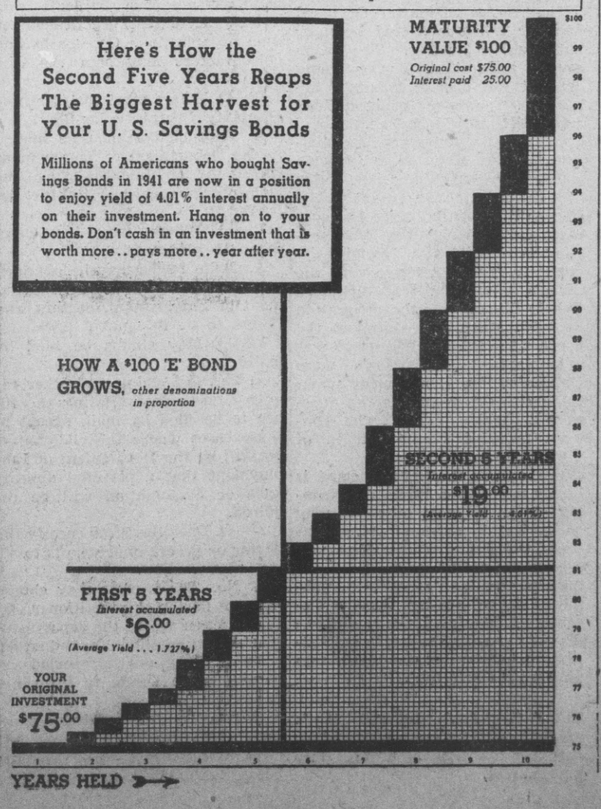
Atlanta, Georgia.

Wage increases averaging $10.50 a week were won for some 20,000 truck line workers in over-the-road agreements reached by Southeast and Southwestern freight operators and the Southern Conference of Teamsters (AFL).

The newly signed pacts call for an hourly wage rate of $1.10, an increase ranging from 10 to 15 per cent. The mileage rate, the truck drivers' major source of income, was increased a half cent per mile, which is approximately $10.50 more weekly for the average driver.

The wide gap that has existed between the Southeast and Southwest agreement is narrowed down in the agreement to one-tenth of a cent difference. The contracts, which are retroactive to Nov. 16, 1946, also provide a six-day paid vacation for an employee who has worked 60 per cent of the time of the first year and a 12-day vacation for five years or more of service.

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